

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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How did we buy more people into the state aid change? We added more money to it. How did we make the changes when levy limits came through with (LB) 806? We added more money to it. We again will do the same thing today. Is that wrong? No, that's not wrong, that's how it's happened. And that's how your vote today is going to continue, because the next time, when levy limits go to \$1, there will be another discussion and another day, and the same pattern will continue. That's the reason the amendment the other day was, I think, a unique opportunity to keep some flexibility with the Legislature, because your votes will continue today to go on to do that. Am I going to vote for 149? Yes, I'm going to vote to suspend the rules today because I think that is something that we have obligated ourselves to do, and I think we ought to fulfill that. But what's going to happen in the future is going to be that state aid will not be state aid. It will become the commitment of the state to fund the schools. And the closer that you get to a majority of the funding, it will no longer be seen as aid. It will be seen as you must fund the schools, because it is an obligation of the state.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: There's a huge difference in that, because then it becomes an appropriation, it doesn't become just aid. And so what I hope that we do in the future when there are problems, when money does get tight and it will, times will get bad, if it's up to the Education Committee, and it's not this group of individuals, because it's been every Education Committee, if the bill goes to Education Committee, there will be...to affectuate the change you will have to put more money into the formula to affectuate the change in distribution. If the bill is referred to the Appropriations Committee, the change will happen because they'll want the flexibility. It's going to come down to where does the bill go. And when there are tough times, I don't know where that bill does go, I just know that the issue of state aid will begin to mellow away and this will become an obligation of the state. And as long as the Legislature decides that issue and no one else, I'm comfortable.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.